

JOHN GRISS CHARITY OPEN MEETING AGENDA

Welcome: Lee Saunders, Chair, Clayhidon Parish Council

Introduction to the John Griss Charity and its Trustees; an update on its activities: John Kidner, Chair of the John Griss Charity

Finance: Susan McGeever, Secretary

Further Information: John Kidner

Update on Hartsmoor Fishery: Andy Don

Q&A Session

FINANCE

- The John Griss Charity accounts can be viewed on the Charity Commission's website and on the Clayhidon Parish Council website
- The documents covering policies and procedures are also available on both websites including the grant application forms
- In 2021, the Parish Council became responsible for the assets left in John Griss's will
- An opening balance of £18302.21 together with Hartsmoor Fishery, Land and Rose Cottage.

FINANCE

- At the end of the financial year to 31 March 2026, the balance sits at £243193.18 together with the Fishery and the Land. The sale of Rose Cottage realised £279656.80 and there are two affordable properties in the village let through Devon Home Choice
- The Fishery and the Land provide an income through rent and grants which has been used to develop the assets for future generations.

FINANCE

- Besides work on the fishery and the land, largely covered by grants received, other expenditure covers:
 - Setting up the Charity
 - Day to day expenditure including insurance and staff (circa £2k per year)
 - Grants
 - Assets (community tent/defibrillator)
 - Open Days/Village events

A year-by-year breakdown of income and expenditure is available.

Hartsmoor Fishery: What's new since 17.04.24.....??



Presentation to Parishioners, Clayhidon
Village Hall, 29.04.26.

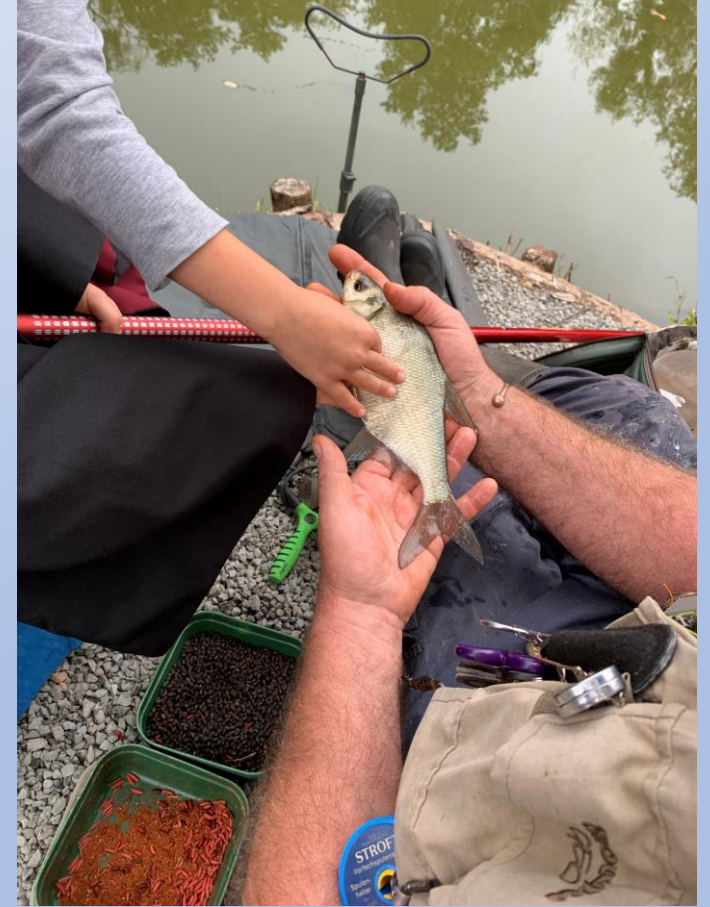
Andy Don, FIFM

THE JOHN GRISS CHARITY
Charity number: 1193024

1st September 2024



- Our first 'Come and Try' day at Hartsmoor - everyone welcome
- Music, BBQ, fishing tuition and guided walks



Total of 33 juniors and others coached

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2024 also saw the start of improvement works to the fishery



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17th January 2025

Planning Permission granted for reception building, enlarged toilet block, trackways, parking areas and bird hide

Reference No: 24/01388/FULL
Parish: Clayhidon 15



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

APPROVAL OF FULL PLANNING APPLICATION

Name and Address of Applicant:

Mr J Kidner, Chairman of The John Griss
Charity
Moor View
Clayhidon
Cullompton
Devon
EX15 3QE

Name and Address of Agent:

Mr Barry James
James Planning & Development Services Ltd
Bolham Mill Cottage
Clayhidon
Cullompton
EX15 3QB

Date Registered : 26th October 2024

Date of Permission : 17th January 2025

Proposal: Erection of reception/welfare building; enlargement of existing toilet block; improvement of internal access track; provision of parking areas and erection of bird/hide shelter

Location: Land at NGR 317641 112066 Hartsmoor Lakes Clayhidon Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 317520/112004

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL HEREBY GRANTS FULL PLANNING PERMISSION FOR THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENT

Subject to the following conditions:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans listed in the schedule on the decision notice.
3. The materials to be used in the development hereby approved shall be as set out in the approved plans and stated on the application form unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
4. A Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) shall be submitted to, and be approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority prior to commencement of the development

The content of the LEMP shall include the following:

- a) All management measures, and monitoring in respect of created and enhanced habitats (including methodology, frequency, and storage of monitoring record), necessary to accord with the approved Biodiversity Gain Plan for a period of 30 years.
- b) Description and evaluation of all ecological features to be managed.



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Compacted stone
fishing platforms
and access paths

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7th September 2025



- Our second 'Come and Try day at Hartsmoor – everyone welcome
- First use of The Charity's Community tent
- First use of Angling Trust coaches

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- 42 budding anglers were coached – all caught fish!!
- Weather could have been kinder....nobody seemed to mind... 🤪

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Going....going....gone!!!

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'...Despite the dodgy weather the 'come and try angling' event held at Hartsmoor Lakes in Bolham, Devon was a huge success. This fishery is fairly unique in being owned by a charity. John Griss, a much-loved local character passed away in 2020 leaving behind a coarse fishery 'for the benefit of the Parish'. Since then the charity, set up in his name, has been going from strength to strength as has the fishery.

Angling Trust coaches Dean and Mark supported the Hartsmoor event and the organizers received nothing but praise for both of the coaches around their professionalism, skill and friendliness with all of those junior anglers. The headline is 42 kids were coached and all caught fish!

This was a very successful community event which also featured a live band, a beer tent and free barbecue food.

Today 10:02



Despite the dodgy weather yesterday's 'come and try' event at the local fishery saw 42 kids try angling - importantly every one of them caught fish. Happy kids, happy parents, happy coaches. A good day!!



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14th September 2025



John Griss Memorial Service –
presided over by Maurice
Bendle



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7th February 2026: Angling Coaching Qualification

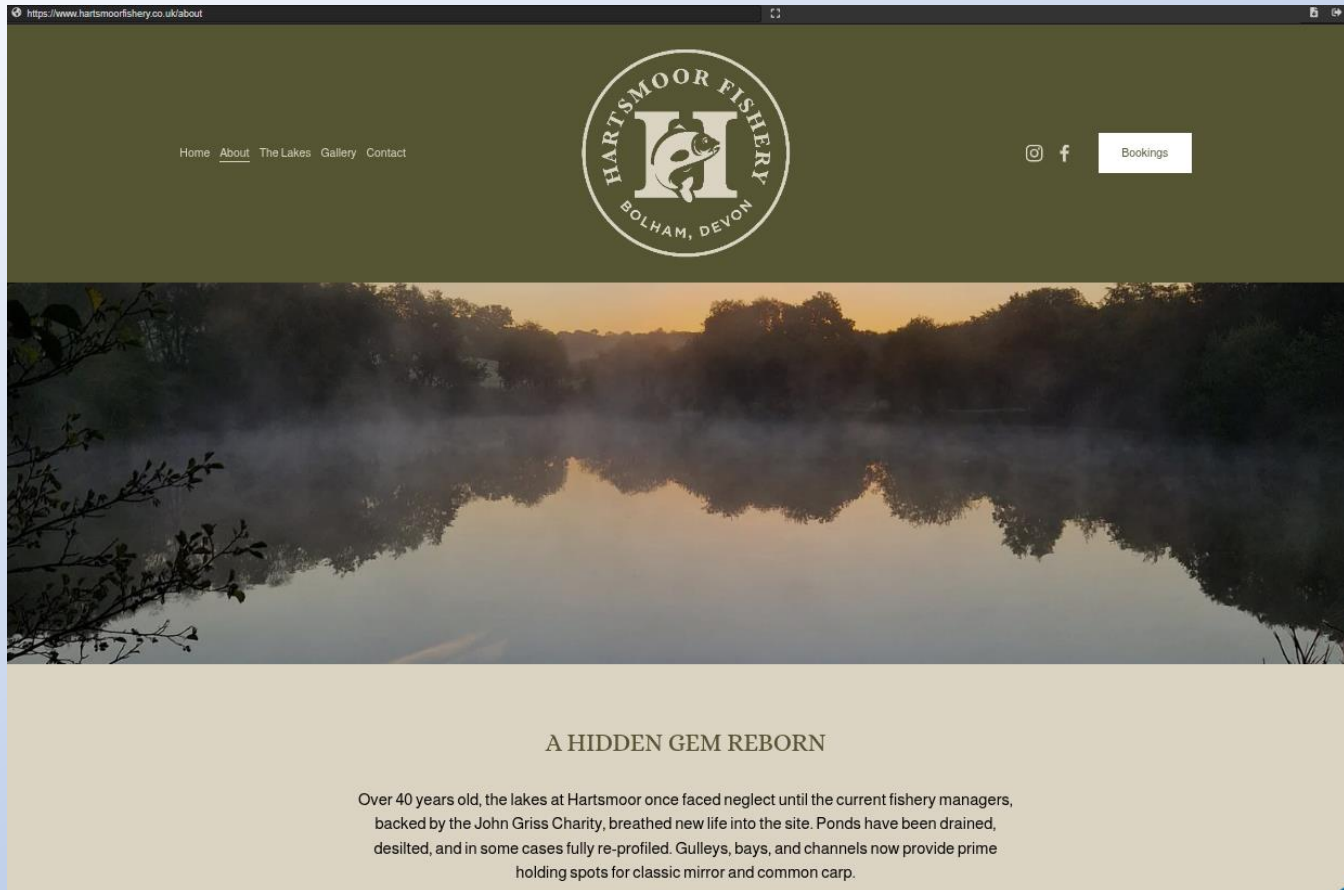


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March/April 2026

Launch of the Hartsmoor Fishery website:

[Hartsmoor Fishery | Experience Premier Fishing Today](https://www.hartsmoorfishery.co.uk)



Fantastic logo created by Casey Blackmore



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To Date the John Griss Charity has received:

For:

- Predator Fencing
- Fishing Platforms (Disabled and able-bodied)
- Trackways
- Car-parking/hard-standing
-Just under **£21,000** from the Environment Agency/Angling Trust



...which Paul and Rory have substantially added to in 'payment in kind' via their labour...

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Next Steps...??

Both the Angling Trust and the Environment Agency have been extremely supportive of Hartsmoor Fishery and have described it as 'an exemplar'

We will continue to hold the 'come and try' open day

Now that the Hartsmoor Fishery website is live, it is hoped that more Parishioners will avail themselves of the free fishing that they are entitled to via the various contact routes to Rory and Paul (FB Messenger principally)

Now that we have fully qualified angling coaches, we will be starting a school summer holidays angling club

Potential next step, once wider access discussions have been resolved, is to seek funding for a reception/office/training building (lodge??) which the Angling Trust would vigorously support.

Hartsmoor should be in a strong position to bid for funding because:

- It is a registered charity
- AT would support it
- It caters for disabled access
- There can be a training/education element to the bid
- There could be wider community benefits
- JGC is committed to demonstrating sustainability eg premises could be 'off-grid' via solar etc



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Thank you for listening
Any Questions?



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